

In the present case, the above new grounds of rejection were not necessitated by an amendment. Further, the Regulla reference that is newly applied against claims 3, 9, 24-25, 27-35, and 37 in the most recent Office Action was not submitted under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action mailed August 27, 2002 that reopened prosecution of this case. Applicant also respectfully requests entrance of the ~~amendments submitted below~~ and consideration of the remarks that follow.

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2002, the period for response having been extended until January 27, 2003 by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as noted below and consider the remarks that follow.

In the Drawings: ✓

Please add the attached drawings of Figs. 3 and 4.

In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraphs at page 7 before the title "Detailed Description of Illustrative Embodiments":

20 for the polymeric film 14 of Figure 2. --

-- Figure 4 is a perspective view of a package 22 according to the present invention comprising a product 24, a polymeric lid 26, and a tray 28 incorporating an authenticating agent and comprising a substance selected from paperboard, chipboard, and cardboard. --

In the Claims: ✓